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September 8, 2016

A RhodeTrip to Remember



Dear Friends,

One month, 21 cities and towns, and countless stories. That's what the #LangevinRhodeTrip was all about – [meeting constituents where they work and live](#), and hearing from them about the issues that matter. From Burrillville to Block Island, I spent the month of August visiting every community in the Second District. While I've spent time in each of these cities and towns before, the experience gave me fresh perspective and renewed enthusiasm.

I toured businesses, visited hospitals, met with community leaders, and talked about everything from manufacturing to housing. And everywhere I went, there was good news. There were hardships and roadblocks, yes, but each Rhode Islander I spoke with had great ideas on how we can make things better. Like the health care providers at CODAC, increasing access to care and fighting to break the stigma surrounding mental illness. They each had things to be proud of, and they want their neighbors to know about it. Like the RI Mushroom Company's skyrocketing success from growing mushrooms in a closet to becoming a regional leader in agriculture.

Join the Conversation:



Save The Date

APPLE FESTIVAL

Johnston's 29th Annual!

10am-6pm

September 17 and 18

Johnston Memorial Park

1583 Hartford Ave

Did You Know...?

APP CHALLENGE

My office participates in the Congressional App Challenge, so if you know a tech-savvy high schooler, encourage them to compete! >>

FAST FACT

Rhode Islander Andrew Cortes was chosen to lead the Advisory Committee on Apprenticeship, which puts our state at the center of a nationwide effort to increase on-the-job learning. >>

In Other News

ON THE FARM

During his trip, Rep. Langevin paid a visit to the owners (and animals) of Festival Farm in Hope

These are just two examples; there are so many more and [you can see a full list here](#). I hope you will take the time to read my blog posts about the success stories and the creativity, innovation, and leadership that is on display all around us. I'm honored to be in a position to help support the people, organizations, and companies doing exceptional work in Rhode Island. But they're the ones doing the heavy lifting, and it's their stories we should be celebrating.

The [#LangevinRhodeTrip](#) has been an exciting and inspiring ride, and you can catch up through the [interactive map on my website](#). As always, you can be part of the discussion on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#) and [Instagram](#).

If you ask me, we need a little more optimism in the world – more good news. It's easy to find when you take the time to listen to people, and I can't say thank you enough to all the Rhode Islanders who were willing to talk with me. I'll see you next time.

Sincerely,

Jim Langevin



Pushing Them Higher

Along with my colleagues in the Congressional delegation, I was proud to support [a federal grant of \\$781,718 for the Community College of Rhode Island](#) to help low-income and first-generation students pursue postsecondary education. These funds will help nearly 3,000 Rhode Islanders overcome obstacles to higher education, including assistance with applying for financial aid and college admissions.



Congress Must Act

As I prepare to return to Washington, I am eager to renew the fight for stronger funding for Zika research. I am frustrated that no action has been taken to seriously address this health crisis as the number of affected individuals continues to rise. [Rhode Island received \\$200,000 in August](#), but much more needs to be done. The health of the American people, and the safety of pregnant women and their unborn babies, in particular, is at stake.

Valley. >>

HEALTHY DOSE OF WESTERLY

Rep. Langevin and Senator Sheldon Whitehouse visited Westerly Hospital and the South County Medical and Wellness Center to talk about access to health care in South County. >>

FIGHTING FIRE WITH FEMA

Thanks to a federal grant that Rep. Langevin supported, the East Greenwich and Portsmouth Fire Departments have \$160,000 to improve public safety. >>

AGING IN PLACE

At the groundbreaking for the ChurchWoods housing development in Charlestown, Rep. Langevin noted that affordable, senior housing can help people age with dignity and independence. >>

HUB OF ACTIVITY

Rep. Langevin applauded the Southeastern New England Defense Industry Alliance (SENEDIA) on their efforts to create an Undersea Technology Innovation Center in Rhode Island. >>

TIP OF THE CCAP

During a visit to CCAP's Coventry facility, Rep. Langevin discussed the importance of providing quality, affordable health care to underserved populations. >>

ON THE BAY

Rep. Langevin helped to announce \$619,322 in federal funding to help preserve and restore the coastal and estuarine ecosystems of Narragansett Bay. >>

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